



Joseph C. Lincoln.

## What You Should Know About American Authors

### XIII. Joseph Crosby Lincoln.

**A**S George W. Cable's name has been associated with the Creoles of Louisiana, and Miss Murfree's with the mountains of North Carolina, John Fox, Jr.'s, with the Cumberland, and James Lane Allen's with the Blue Grass region of Kentucky, so the name of Joseph C. Lincoln is to-day linked with the people and scenes of Cape Cod. It was the natural environment and life for him to turn to when he took up writing, for it was at Brewster, Cape Cod, not many miles from the spot where the Pilgrim Fathers landed from the Mayflower just 250 years before, that Lincoln was born on February 13, 1870. That was only fifty-two years ago, yet then the old sea captains who made American shipping famous were still in their glory. Joseph C. Lincoln's own father was one of them.

Of a fever in Charleston, S. C., Capt. Lincoln died when the boy was a year old, and young Joseph was brought up by his mother. In youth he roamed the Cape, fishing, riding in the old stage coach from Harwich to Chatham and learning the lives and thoughts and humble aspirations of

lightkeepers, fishermen, lifesavers and cracker box oracles of the village stores. Probably at that age he dreamed of a career on the sea, for most boys of the Cape did; but his relatives had other plans for him and placed him in a banking house in Boston. There life was distasteful, and after many months he succeeded in escaping from figures and accounts. Then he tried to be an artist, and occasionally sold a drawing when it was accompanied by a verse or a joke. Soon he found that the verses sold better without the pictures, and the day came when he began selling stories to the magazines.

It was just twenty years ago that Joseph C. Lincoln published his first book, "Cape Cod Ballads." Then, in 1904, his first novel appeared, "Captain Eri," which told the story of three old sea cap'tns who, despairing of their joint efforts as housekeepers, advertised for a wife. That was the beginning of a real popularity. Lincoln had found himself. Here, in a nutshell, is his literary dossier following "Captain Eri": "Mr. Pratt," "Partners of the Tide," "The Old Home House," "Our Village," "Cy Whitaker's Place," "Keziah Coffin," "The Depot Master," "The Woman

Haters," "Cap'n Warren's Wards," "The Postmaster," "The Rise of Roscoe Paine," "Mr. Pratt's Patients," "Cap'n Dan's Daughter," "Kent Knowles, 'Quahaug'," "Thankful's Inheritance," "Extracting Obadiah," "Mary 'Gusta," "Shavings," "The Portygee" and "Galusha the Magnificent."

There has always been a popular impression that Mr. Lincoln has been in the habit of using actual persons as his characters and actual localities for his scenes. But of this he has written: "I have never knowingly drawn the exact, recognizable portrait of an individual. I have received, of course, hundreds of letters from readers

who inform me, in strict confidence, that they know the original of Cap'n — and recognized him at once. Nevertheless, they are wrong, for no character of mine has been, if I could prevent it, a portrait of one living or who has lived. I have endeavored always to be true to type, and in writing of the old deep sea captain, the coasting skipper, the longshoreman or the people of the Cape villages I have done my best to portray each as I have seen and known specimens of his or her kind. But I have endeavored just as sincerely never to draw an individual portrait which might offend or hurt."

## Noncensorship

**NONCENSORSHIP.** Sundry Observations Concerning Prohibitions, Inhibitions and Frederick O'Brien, Dorothy Parker, Frank Swinnerton, H. M. Tomlinson, Charles Hanson Towne, John V. A. Weaver, Alexander Woolcott and the author of "The Mirrors of Washington." Edited by G. P. P. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

**T**HOSE persons who from a sense of duty or for hire or for the sheer pleasure of the thing are devoting their time to telling the other citizens of the Republic how to conduct their lives are likely to be rather shocked by the tone of "Noncensorship." It is not just the book to select as a Christmas present for Mr. Voliva or Mr. Bealby or Mr. Volstead or Mr. Wilbur Crafts or Mr. John Roach Straton or Mr. N. Sumner or Mr. William H. Anderson or Mr. "Izzy" Einstein. For example, Mr. Sumner would probably be inclined to disapprove of Mr. Heywood Brown, who says: "A censor is a man who has read about Joshua and forgotten Canute. He believes that he can hold back the mighty traffic of life with a tin whistle and a raised hand." No reformer is likely to relish the inference when Mr. Robert Keable recalls that "a pleasant feature of the old Inquisition was that it tried and burnt you for the good of your own soul."

Not inference but direct statement is the basis of Mr. Charles Hanson Towne's contribution. He says, in part: "We fought to rid the world of autocracy, yet we have suddenly become the most autocratic nation on earth. Prohibition is a symbol of the death of freedom. The issue at stake is as clear cut as taxation without representation, and our legislators should re-

member a certain well known Boston tea party. There would have been no United States of America unless a few honest men with sound convictions had rebelled and protested against tyranny. The right kind of rebel makes the right kind of citizen." Again he says: "A good American, as I understand it, is not one who stands for the letter of the law, no matter what that law may be. A good American, ungenerous attitude of the fanatics; one who visualizes the future and prays that to follow us."

It is in verse that Mr. Wallace Irwin pays his respects to Mr. Volstead, who "came from Minn. to show the world": Then Andrew Volstead squared his chin And answered briefly, "Sin is sin."

No compromise  
With the King of Lies!

Both liquor thick and liquor thin  
We'll cease to tax

And use the ax

Invented by the Man from Minn.

My Nation will be purified

Of all corruptions vile.

The lamb and lion, side by side,

Will smile, and smile, and smile.

The criminals will cease to swarm,

Forgers and burglars will reform.

And minor crimes will so abate

That lower courts—now open late—

Will close and let the Magistrate

Go to the zoo.

Feminine ideas on the subject are reflected in the contributions of Ruth Hale, "The Woman's Place," Helen Bullitt Lowry, "The Uninhibited Flapper," and Dorothy Parker, "Reformers: A Hymn of Hate."



Wallace Irwin composing in Volstead's Shadow.

## A Famous Japanese Artist

**Y**ONE NOGUCHI has written an extended appreciation of the famous modern master of Japanese art, Korin, whose genius, he holds, receives inadequate recognition from those who only think of Korin as a painter of flowers with peculiar decorative power. Korin is believed to have died in 1815 at about the age of 60 years. Mr. Noguchi finds Korin's mastery of his art always magnificently exhibiting his restraint in detail. "The large, empty space surrounding the figures . . . is more important artistically; this work [the screens of the Wind and Thunder Gods] is absolutely incomparable in the way it treats the empty space in the picture. What talismanic space! O, what a magical artist with space!" Among European artists and critics who greatly admire the method of this painter is Charles

Ricketts, to whom the present brochure is dedicated. "Am I right in divining something at once impressive yet exultant in the art of Korin?" he asks. And Mr. Noguchi declares, "This is the language rightly spoken."

There are thirty-two pages of the critical article and a number of reproductions of Korin's pictures, six of them printed from wood blocks in colors and black; the frontispiece, the Thunder God, has a gold impression as well. A number of collotypes, many small cuts and two pages of the painter's seals and signatures complete the decorative quality. The book is printed in Japan on special paper and 450 copies are for sale in Europe. The design (in gold) on the cover and also on the case are taken from Korin's ink case, now owned by Mr. Kaichiro Sawa of Tokio.